

Remarks

This is in response to the second non-final Office Action mailed October 21, 2005, which rejected claims 1-7, 10-19 and 22-24, and objected to claims 8, 9, 20 and 21.

The Applicant has amended the language of claims 1-3, 5, 9-10, 13, 21 and 24, and cancelled claims 8 and 20 without prejudice.

Independent claim 1 now generally features a method comprising applying a first demagnetizing current in accordance with a first profile to remove a first sensed residual magnetization of a pole of a data transducer, subsequently applying a data transmission current to the transducer to transmit data, and removing a second sensed residual magnetization of said pole by supplying the transducer with a different, second demagnetizing current in accordance with a second profile. Support for this amendment includes the original language of claims 1 and 8. Independent claims 13 and 24 have been similarly amended. Dependent claims 2-3, 5, 9-10 and 13 have been amended to better conform to the independent claims from which these dependent claims depend.

These amendments are proper, do not introduce new matter, and serve to place the application in proper condition for reconsideration and allowance.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 13-16 and 22 were rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,038,093 issued to Takada et al. ("Takada '093") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,396,369 to Deland Jr. et al. ("Deland '369"). Claims 17-19 were rejected in view of the above combination of references, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,970,621 to Gailbreath et al. ("Gailbreath

'621"). Claim 23 was rejected in view of the above combination of references, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,671,117 to Dimitrov et al. ("Dimitrov '117").

These rejections are respectfully traversed on the basis that none of these references teach or suggest providing a demagnetizing current in accordance with a profile selected in relation to a sensed magnetization, as previously claimed. Nevertheless, the Applicant has provided the above clarifying amendments to more clearly set forth the adaptive characteristics of the claimed subject matter.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the above references, alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter as now claimed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under §103(a) are requested on this basis.

Allowable Subject Matter

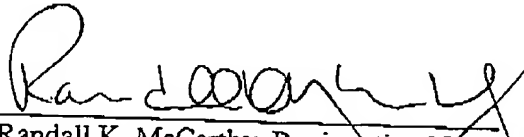
The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowability of claims 8, 9, 20 and 21.

Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims 1-24 pending in the application. This Response is intended to be a complete response to the second non-final Office Action mailed October 21, 2005.

Should any questions arise concerning this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the below signed Attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Randall K. McCarthy, Registration No. 39,297
Mitchell K. McCarthy, Registration No. 38,794
Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey and Tippens, P.C.
100 N. Broadway, Suite 1700
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
Telephone: (405) 232-0621
Facsimile: (405) 232-9659
Customer No. 33900

#344741

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